

1. LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE

Three Hummock Island, Tasmania.	Height a.m.s.l. (ft) 75	Date 10.3.72	Time (Local) 1025	Zone EST
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2. THE AIRCRAFT

Type and Model Cessna 172D	Registration VH-IAN	Certificate of Airworthiness	Valid from 4.3.70	Valid to 2.11.73
Registered Owner Norwest Air Charters Pty. Ltd., 26 Smith Street, Smithton, Tasmania.	Operator Norwest Air Charters Pty. Ltd., 26 Smith Street, Smithton, Tasmania.	Degree of damage to aircraft Substantial		
Defects discovered Nil.		Other property damaged Nil		

3. THE FLIGHT

Last or intended departure point Three Hummock Island	Time of departure 1025	Next point of intended landing Smithton	Purpose of flight Carriage of Passengers	Class of operation Charter
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4. THE CREW

Name	Status	Age	Class of licence	Hours on type	Total hours	Degree of injury
Alan Niel BURGESS	Pilot	22	Commercial	1069	1782	Serious

5. OTHER PERSONS (All passengers and persons injured on ground)

Name	Status	Degree of injury	Name	Status	Degree of injury
Jary Desmond LONG	Passenger	Minor	Ian GILLESPIE	Passenger	Nil
Milton CUNNINGHAM	Passenger	Nil			

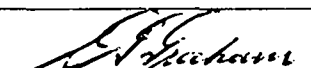
RELEVANT EVENTS

During lift off, the stall warning sounded and there is evidence that it continued to sound as the aircraft climbed away. At a height of about 50 feet the left wing dropped and the aircraft descended steeply in a turn to the left, striking the scrub covered ground about 250 feet north east of the eastern end of the airstrip. The operations manual specifies 10 degrees of flap for minimum ground roll on take off and up to 10 degrees of flap for take off in cross wind conditions but, for take off on this occasion, the pilot selected 20 degrees of flap. The take off was made into the east, with a strong gusting wind blowing approximately from the north east, giving a crosswind component at or near the 15 knot maximum permitted for the aircraft type.

6. OPINION AS TO CAUSE

The probable cause of the accident was that, following take off in strong gusty wind conditions, the pilot failed to maintain adequate airspeed.

Report released

 (D.S. GRAHAM)

 Designation
Assistant Director-General
(Air Safety Investigation)
Date
30.11.72